



8-page section
on Attica

Exclusive: from inside Attica

see centerfold

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

WORKERS WORLD

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25¢

Massacre at Attica . . .

Rockefeller's Mylai

The war against Black America has had its domestic Mylai. The massacre at Attica is another Mylai not only because of the ferocious bestiality of both events, but also because the disclosure of what happened has shaken the system to its foundations.

When the 1500 men in Cellblock D made a conscious and heroic decision to face death rather than return to the most brutal form of slavery, they couldn't have known the impact this would have. But they must have had great hope—hope that the extraordinary unity, class solidarity and consciousness of their situation that had been achieved in this struggle would go to the hearts of the millions of poor and oppressed in this country, and around the world, and that their courage and willingness to die would stem the tide of ruling class reaction and hysteria.

And they have been vindicated! With little more than their bare hands and a collective will of iron, they have made an indelible impact on the consciousness of the oppressed—and sent the oppressors into a frenzy of alibis, mutual recriminations and lies.

The establishment press is focusing entirely on the question of who killed the guards—which is important to the oppressed only in that it exposes the wild, racist lies of the authorities. But what has really been unearthed before the eyes of the people—and is carefully avoided in the press controversy—is the brutal way in which the prisons, and all the organs of the state, are run in the interests of the rich ruling class, and no one else.

What happened to the myth that prisons exist for the good of society? It crumbled when Rockefeller and Oswald (with Nixon's blessing) rejected the prisoners' demands and ordered in their stormtroopers.

How could granting these demands have injured "society"? The prisoners were asking for conditions that might have meant a chance for real "rehabilitation." Of course this would have to mean dismissing the warden—he had presided over a brutal concentration camp. And of course the prisoners should have been granted amnesty from prosecution, just as all the brave men and women who have resisted the draft, refused

(continued on WW 4)

A victory for unemployed worker

BY BARBARA TEEL
Special to WORKERS WORLD

The Unemployment Grievance Committee of the Center for United Labor Action has found that the most effective help we've been able to give unemployed people who are fighting for benefits has been to go down in force to the unemployment office to confront the representatives of the unemployment system and oppose its unfairness, racism, and bias in favor of bosses. A recent victory proved that the way we can win is to show that unemployed people are

angry and are becoming united, and not allow the unemployment officials to force us into quiet conferences in their isolated offices.

Mrs. Lewis, a Black woman who had worked for a bank, came to the Unemployment Grievance Committee for help. She had been subjected to racist harassment by the bank, both before and after they fired her, and by the unemployment office. The bank had asked her to quit; when she refused because she needed the money, the bank bounced her from department to department, trying to force her out of the job. The bank

finally fired her for refusing to do a job a supervisor had said she wouldn't have to do.

When Mrs. Lewis went to the unemployment office to try to get her meager benefits, the bank kept her from collecting by claiming she had provoked the firing. A referee hearing ruled that she was eligible, but the unemployment office itself asked for an appeal to keep her from getting benefits!

All this time (26 weeks) she was desperately looking for a job, only to learn that the bank was giving her bad recommendations. Then the un-

employment interviewer had the nerve to claim that she was now ineligible for benefits because she wasn't looking for a job!

We went down to the unemployment office with her to demand that they give her benefits. We set up a picket line outside with picket signs demanding benefits for Mrs. Lewis, demanding full benefits or full employment, and demanding that the unemployment system stop racist mistreatment of Black and Latin claimants. With the picket line to back us up, two of us went in with Mrs. Lewis to confront the office manager and demand that her case be reviewed and that she be ruled eligible for benefits. The manager, very upset by the picket line, especially about the signs publicizing the racism of the unemployment system, ordered the appeal against Mrs. Lewis dropped. A few days later she got full back benefits amounting to about \$900.00.

Freeze exposes women workers' plight

by BARBARA KOWALSKI

With one fierce blow, Nixon not only froze wages last month when he announced his wage-price freeze, but he in effect froze women into their second-class jobs, into their social role as second-class citizens.

Over thirty-one million women in this country work. They don't work to pass the time of day. They work for the same reason men do: to support themselves and their families. Yet these women are not allowed the same job opportunities as men and are paid far less for what work they do.

Nixon's wage-price freeze perpetuates this inequality. By his decree, he is locking women into jobs where they are overworked and underpaid. Nixon is attempting to still any cries of "equal pay for equal work." He is denying women their right to equality in the name of "sacrifice for the common good."

For whose good were wages frozen? It wasn't for the good of the piece-worker, or the typist, or the waitress, or the telephone operator. Getting through each day involves sacrifice enough for them. Now they have been told not to hope for higher wages, and their bosses can try to enforce speedups and overtime as "sacrifices for the common good."

For whose good were wages frozen? Wall Street provides the answer. Profits have always been built on the "sacrifices" of women,



and all members of the oppressed and working classes — "sacrifices" in the form of wages never paid them. Women can't see the fruits of their labor when they shop in the supermarkets because it's being traded by financiers on the stock

market!

What Nixon does not anticipate is his unintentional contribution to the women's struggle. By freezing wages, he exposes the inequities women are subjected to. And the only answer women can give Nixon

is a stronger, more relentless fight against them.

Nixon has tried to impose the will of the bosses upon women, but no attempt, no matter how severe, will restrain our efforts for equal participation in all aspects of society.

Working Women- Our Stories and Struggles

a pamphlet

prepared by
Women of the

Center for
United Labor Action

167 West 21st Street
New York, New York 10011

25¢



Nixon's wage freeze

Phase II: change in form, not content

Will Nixon unfreeze wages on November 13? Not if he can possibly avoid it!

In last week's speech to Congress he did hint that he might take the straitjacket off the workers and allow them to get increases after the 90-day "emergency" is over. And the newspapers played it up that way—also hinting, but not too strongly, that everything might be rosy by the middle of November.

But the truth is, even by Nixon's own double-talking words, that big business will continue to get its tax and profit bonanzas and the workers will keep on getting low wages.

"The 90-day freeze that I announced on August 15 was a temporary measure....But I assure the Congress and the American people that...we shall take all the steps needed to see that America is not again affected by the virus of runaway inflation."

He was actually saying that there will be a different form of wage control after the 90 days,

but that it will still be wage control—under the guise of "inflation" control.

"The system of wage and price stabilization that follows the freeze," he declared to the cheering Congressmen, "will require the fullest cooperation." And he said he was calling representatives of "business, labor and agriculture" to meet with him to "plan the next phase"—i.e., after the first 90 days.

Thus he was adroitly setting the scene for a long-term attempt at wage control, laying the basis for the compliance and entrapment of the official labor leaders in government control of the workers.

These leaders have already condemned some aspects of Nixon's plans, but have not really rejected the plans themselves.

George Meany, for instance, after actually mentioning the words, "general strike," came around to endorsing the idea of a wage-price stabilization board—if it contained representatives from labor and "the public." And he implied

that on this basis, he would make a "no strike pledge" on behalf of the bamboozled and throttled workers. It would be strange indeed if Nixon did not finally agree to this pro-corporation idea.

With one-third of the board directly representing big corporations and another third indirectly representing them through "public" university presidents, big-shot preachers or Park Avenue lawyers—all of whose mentalities are pro-corporation mentalities—the board would work much more effectively for business than if the big bosses themselves openly dictated wages in their own corporate persons.

Outside of a great and torrential upheaval by the American working class, which will take some time to prepare in the face of previous indoctrination and present misleadership, the only thing that could definitively end Nixon's savage crack-down on the workers within the 90 days would be a miraculous re-stabilization of the U.S. economy in this period. And that is not in the cards.

Peaceful coexistence with the boss?

by CHRIS ROBINS

In a tense meeting in the White House on September 10, President Nixon stared across a wide table at the top labor leaders in the country. Nixon was nervous. He needed their support for "Phase II" of his new economic policy, and he wanted to feel them out on possible resistance to his plans.

He must have been very pleased by what he heard. The emphasis of the talk from AFL-CIO misleaders was on cooperation. In fact, what the labor bureaucrats proposed was a three-part control board for the "voluntary" enforcement of whatever continuing or future controls will be "needed" after the current 90-day period is over. The board would include representatives of labor, management and the "general public."

One immediate question that arises is: Who is the "general public"? The implication is of some vague third group that has no special interest in the level of wages, prices or profits. But who would that be? Do you know anyone who's neutral on the question of wages? All the bosses want them as low as possible so as to keep their profits as high as possible. Everybody else is for higher wages to try to catch up with soaring prices.

But the more important problem with the proposal, and one that the union leaders themselves are apparently not aware of, is the clear implication that there is, actually, a possibility of cooperation between labor and management on any substantial issue of interest to the two groups. Contrary to this belief, the whole history of the working class movement demonstrates that the bosses have never voluntarily granted even the smallest concessions to the working people. Time and again, it has only been through the most intense struggles and sacrifice, often involving the blood of workers, that the bosses have

been forced to modify their program of exploitation of labor.

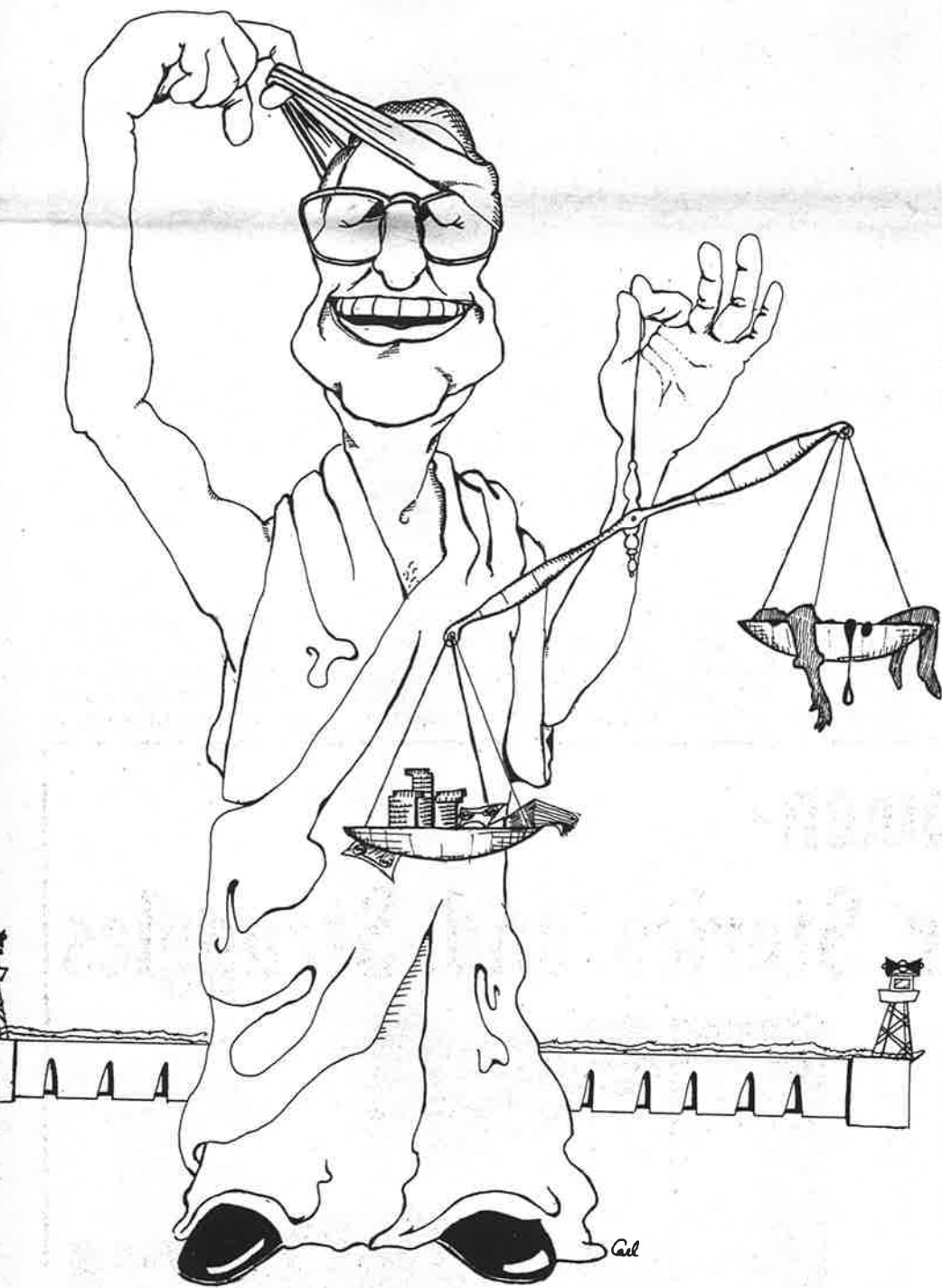
This is a lesson of even the most cursory reading of the history of labor but it is a lesson that Meany, Abel, Fitzsimmons, Woodcock and Beirne long ago forgot, if they ever learned it in the first place.

Their conception, the one reflected in their proposal for "Phase II" of Nixon's assault on labor, is of one big, happy family -- the workers and bosses -- sitting down together to decide what's best for the country and how to strengthen the economy. How inspiring! There are just a few little things wrong with it.

The truth is that "cooperation" between labor and management means no more than the acceptance by labor of the status quo or worse. Any kind of wage freeze, voluntary or otherwise, means freezing millions of largely unorganized workers in the poverty they have been seeking relief from for years. It means that millions of other workers will continue to lose ground in the battle to keep up with prices, many of which have continued to rise despite the so-called price freeze.

And no one, least of all the labor leaders, has been able to answer the question of how it is possible to cooperate with management's chief spokesman, Tricky Dick Nixon. Cooperation implies at least a modicum of trust. It has been clear for a long time now that nobody except big business has any trust in Nixon. There are good reasons why. Nixon's first act in the present crisis was to lay off 100,000 federal employees and freeze the wages of the rest for an additional three months beyond the present freeze.

The problem that the union leaders face is that, having lived so long in the house of the master, they have grown to like the life there. They really do want to cooperate. The contradiction is that they can't preserve their friendship with the class enemy and still preserve any pretense that they're serving the interests of the workers.



editorial

- Rockefeller's Mylai

(continued from WW 1)

to go to Vietnam, and in other ways opposed the U.S. invasion of South-east Asia should be granted amnesty.

The prisoners of Attica struck a great blow for justice, for freedom, for an end to the barbarous and inhumane treatment of oppressed peoples when they rebelled. They shouldn't be prosecuted for this — they should be honored!

ARE ROCKEFELLER'S INTERESTS THOSE OF "SOCIETY"?

But when Rockefeller acted, passing the order down through Oswald to attack the prison in a murderous assault that meant killing even their own hirelings, he wasn't acting for the good of "society." He was protecting the interests of the class of fantastically wealthy corporation heads and bank presidents.

They must have mediaeval prisons in order to keep the poor and oppressed on the bottom, "in their place." There can't be "humane" prisons when the basic structure of this system is inhumane, every day draining the last ounce of energy out of millions of workers who own nothing of any real value, have no power over their lives, and are expected to die in a foreign land whenever the rulers say it's necessary.

The state, when a crisis in class relations occurs, reveals itself to be nothing more than the organized violence of the ruling class. This naked truth was observed by millions who watched the Attica massacre.

And, for a brief moment, the world was given a glimpse of what it would be like if the people did have the power. How many times have we been told that if the oppressed rose up and overthrew the oppressors, they would just end up doing the same things? Attica proved that revolutionary people change the world, and profoundly for the better.

The oppressed, under the most deprived conditions, controlled a piece of ground the size of a football field for five days. They got one sandwich a day, a cup of coffee, and were literally being starved into submission by the authorities. And yet, for that brief moment and under these bizarre conditions, they projected onto that arena a glimpse of what is possible — class solidarity, the overthrow of racism, the ingenuity and initiative of the masses, their iron self-discipline and their humaneness even to the lowest of their tormentors.

This was done by a prison population — the most despised, ill-treated and brutalized segment of society. At the very same moment, the "educated" and "refined" rulers of this country, like Nelson Rockefeller, were conducting a vicious war against the Asian people, practicing racism in every nook and corner of American society, and bleeding the workers with a wage freeze, inflation and unemployment.

No wonder the rich bosses of the U.S. were so terrified of the Attica prisoners that they decided they had to be exterminated. Attica has laid bare the vile core of their racist, imperialist system.

And it has also revealed the glorious potential that lies within the workers and oppressed to reorganize and build a truly human society.

ALL POWER TO THE BROTHERS OF ATTICA!

ALL POWER TO THE OPPRESSED AND EXPLOITED EVERYWHERE!



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Prisoners Solidarity Committee

Special 8-page newsletter on Attica

**Tom Soto reports
from inside Attica**

...see centerfold

A Report From Inside Attica



Contact the Prisoners Solidarity Committee at 58 West 25 St. New York, N.Y. 10010

THE PRISONERS OF ATTICA

Unity and courage VS. Rockefeller's machine guns



Rockefeller's assault troops entering Attica prison for the massacre.

ATTICA, N.Y., Sept. 14 — Billionaire Governor Rockefeller yesterday ended with a massacre the greatest prisoners' rebellion in modern times. Reflecting the blatant racism that has created the concentration camp system in this country and has led to prisoners' revolts nationwide, a guard held hostage by rebelling inmates at Attica State Prison emerged from the prison's main gate free and unharmed with a violent shout of "White power!" Behind him, within the prison walls, spewed a carnage of blood and bodies, including 28 dead prisoners and hundreds wounded, some fatally. Also dead were 9 guards held as hostages, all, according to later autopsies, killed by bullets as 1000 state troopers, sheriffs' deputies and prison guards armed with shotguns, automatic weapons and nausea gas stormed the prison with guns blazing.

"It resembled the aftermath of a war," some observers said, and they were right. Attica, with its prisoner population 85 per cent Black and Puerto Rican and the high political consciousness and clenched fist salutes displayed during the rebellion, was one more battle in the continuing war for national liberation of the Black and Brown populations in the United States. Few believe that it will be the last.

On Thursday, September 9, over 1000 prisoners, long abused by the all-white racist guard force, a vicious prison system, and an economic and political dictatorship held over the poor and working class of this country by the rich, rose up to overpower their tormentors. Within minutes, the inmates seized Cell Block D and 32 guards. Then, from a makeshift megaphone, the inmates issued their demands, many of which reflected the high political content of the rebellion.

POLITICAL DEMANDS RAISED

"An immediate end to the agitation of race relations by the prison administration of this State," the prisoners demanded. An end to the racial discrimination against Brown and Black prisoners by the parole board; a replacement of the present parole board appointed by Rockefeller with a board elected by the people; the right to labor union membership while working in the prison and State and federal minimum wage instead of the present slave labor; constitutional right to legal repre-

sentation at parole board hearings; "an end to the segregation of prisoners from the mainline population because of their political beliefs"; an end to guard brutality against prisoners; and, later the prisoners added their demands for amnesty from criminal prosecution and "speedy and safe transportation out of confinement to any non-imperialist country."

"Many prisoners believe their labor power is being exploited," said the declaration of demands, "in order for the state to increase its economic power and to continue to expand its correctional industries (which are million-dollar complexes), yet do not develop working skills acceptable for employment in the outside society, and which do not pay the prisoner more than an average of forty cents a day. Most prisoners never make more than fifty cents a day. Prisoners who refuse to work for the outrageous scale, or who strike, are punished and segregated without the access to privileges shared by those who work; this is class legislation, class division, creates hostilities within the prison."

The prisoners set up a People's Central Committee which included Black, Puerto Rican and white members, organized their own typing pool and sound system. As for the hostages, according to Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee who saw them, the guards were being well treated, undoubtedly much better than the guards had ever treated the prisoners.

ROCKEFELLER REJECTS AMNESTY

Nelson Rockefeller, billionaire governor of New York, disagreed. "To do so (grant amnesty) would undermine the very essence" of American society, he said. From the barbed-wired seclusion of his 3000 acre private estate at Pocantico Hills, Rockefeller rejected the plea of the mediating committee for him to join the negotiations. Instead, this brother of the head of Chase Manhattan Bank ordered the full mobilization of the National Guard units in western New York to prepare a massacre of Attica's inmates.

The demands of the prisoners were never seriously considered, and the most fundamental of the demands, amnesty, was never considered by the State. To the prisoners, this was crucial as many were in danger of being framed up on murder charges for the death of a sympathetic guard killed by other guards when the rebellion broke out.

Meanwhile, the troop buildup outside the prison continued. Sheriffs' deputies poured in from 13 surrounding counties in their own automobiles, armed with shotguns and 30-30 hunting rifles for "the turkey shoot," as one racist called it. It was clear that Rockefeller's government was not negotiating in good faith.

Under cover of "negotiating," they were preparing the massacre, as hundreds of National Guard troops were moved into the area on Sunday. Police outside the prison grew increasingly hostile to arriving crowds of prisoners' supporters and relatives. One state trooper leveled his shotgun at members of a delegation of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and growled, "Get out of the roadway or we'll wipe you out!"

Meanwhile, relatives of prisoners were denied access to the prison grounds by police, although relatives of hostages were allowed in. A roadblock

one mile from the prison sealed off the prisoners from their relatives and outside supporters. As far as the State was concerned, the prisoners' families had no rights. A curfew was also imposed in the town of Attica to prevent angry Black, Brown and white supporters from exercising their right to be at the scene.

Rockefeller's government had also decided the prisoners had no rights. Not even the right to live.

Yesterday, Monday morning, the State's mobilization was completed, and by 8 a.m. 1700 troops armed with machine guns, automatic rifles, tear and nausea gas, shotguns, and high pressure hoses were poised for the attack. At 9:45, Oswald gave the signal for the attack to begin. Two Army helicopters circled over the northeast corner of the 55-acre compound where the prisoners were gathered. One dropped cannisters of nausea gas onto Cell Block D, while the other swooped down on the men below, firing automatic weapons in the crowd of prisoners, shooting them down in "Vietnam" fashion. The prisoners had no weapons to return the fire but defended themselves as valiantly as they could. Their only means of defense were hand-made weapons. It was a massacre.

CAPITALIST PRESS LIED!

Yesterday the capitalist press was full of horror stories of hostages with their throats cut, mutilations and executions. The racist hysteria against the prisoners' uprising was being carefully fanned. Today the truth came out — the guards were all killed in the same murderous assault by police and national guards on the prisoners.

So far, twenty-eight prisoners and nine hostages were reported killed, hundreds of prisoners wounded. The 28 surviving hostages were taken for treatment to a nearby hospital, while the hundreds of wounded prisoners waited for treatment in a small room in the prison, 8 by 10 feet, the floor covered with blood. "It's the worst thing I've ever seen," said one doctor emerging from the prison gate in a blood-stained gown.

Asked if he had any second thoughts after seeing the resulting massacre, Commissioner Oswald patted his huge stomach and calmly replied, "No, I don't." Nelson Rockefeller had no second thoughts, either. He agreed that the security of the whole rotten prison system was at stake. The highly political content of the prisoner demands was also a direct challenge to the dictatorship of wealth enjoyed by millionaires like Rockefeller. This was not just a prison rebellion, but part of a larger class war going on across the country. This was recognized on a national level as President Nixon personally phoned his congratulations to the Governor. Rockefeller was, of course, delighted.

The people were not. Prisons around the country stirred with anger. In Baltimore City Jail, the second revolt within a year broke out, and prisoners of Cleveland County Prison also rebelled. Throughout New York, Rockefeller ordered all inmates in the state's maximum security prisons confined to their cells, in fear of spreading rebellion. Rockefeller, sipping his mint julep at his Pocantico Hills estate, may have been delighted with Nixon's support, but he was frantically worried about the rising tide of people's vengeance that is increasingly threatening to sweep him and his wealthy class into the dustbin of history.

Breaking through the walls of isolation

What is the Prisoners Solidarity Committee?

Once in a very great while, a rich man goes to prison. Maybe he's taking a six-month rap for a company that defrauded the people out of millions; when he gets out after his brief stretch, he's set for life. And even while he's in, every little comfort is provided for him, so that the time passes as pleasantly as possible.

Most of all, he is never really isolated, never forgotten. His lawyers visit him constantly, the guards treat him like a "gentleman," and he is able to conduct his business affairs from prison.

Prisons weren't made for people like this. The fact that a handful of them may be in a few federal institutions is largely an accident.

But the prisons are full, overflowing, exploding with poor, oppressed men and women for whom prisons have meant the end — of life, of happiness, of friends and family. The first stretch becomes a stigma that dooms a young person to a life behind bars. The prisoner never sees a lawyer, is prevented from defending himself, is estranged from his or her family just out of the sheer impossibility of visits to isolated prisons, and can look forward to desperation and disappointment when and if he ever hits the streets again.

For thousands of prisoners, especially the large percentage of Black and other oppressed people routed into the prisons from birth, these conditions have become unbearable. The terrible isolation imposed by the racist authorities has been broken again and again in the only way left to human beings who have been literally sealed in their own tombs: by open rebellion. These rebellions are specifically directed at the numberless injustices that read like a description of the Chamber of Horrors; but they are also something more.

They are a passionate cry to brothers and sisters on the outside, a desperate affirmation that they are alive, there on the inside; they are human beings who, while treated worse than animals, have not been crushed, whose spirit lives on in rebellion.

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee is another absolutely indispensable product of this new spirit. It was formed less than a year ago, when prisoners at Auburn, N.Y., wrote to organizations

on the outside for help. Youth Against War & Fascism responded, and soon helped form the Prisoners Solidarity Committee. The committee has expanded to many cities since then, and includes relatives of prisoners and released prisoners themselves.

When news of the PSC reached the jails, it released a dammed-up flood of letters from brothers and sisters telling of the indignities, the brutality, the pain that is a daily part of prison life. But these letters all told something else. They were not pathetic appeals from beaten people; they rang with hope and strength and willingness to struggle. Moreover, the writers were thrilled that they were finally breaking out of their isolation, that people outside were listening and working with them.

The PSC published some of these letters in the pamphlet, "Prisoners Call Out: Freedom!"

The PSC raised some money with this pamphlet and social affairs, and rented a bus

so that prisoners' relatives could get to Auburn and visit them. For many of them, it was the first visit in years.

When the Auburn 6 had several court hearings, the PSC got sizable demonstrations of support, even in blizzard conditions. More and more, the PSC became a vehicle whereby the prisoners themselves could speak to the people outside, could generalize their struggle, fuse their grievances and their hopes into the main current of rebellion that is rising in the country as a whole.

Thus it was small wonder that when the heroic Attica prisoners met with a small group of observers during the rebellion, it was the PSC delegate, Tom Soto, who they most wanted to see. It was to him that they entrusted the greatest number of messages, for their loved ones and for the movement as a whole.

The PSC, on hearing of the rebellion, had immediately mobilized all its strength: it sent a delegation to Attica, arranged transportation for relatives, and organized many demonstrations throughout New York State and in several major cities elsewhere. The prisoners knew about all this, and knew that what they had to say would be heard on the outside.

At the most difficult moments, when ruling class hysteria against the prisoners reached its height, the PSC announced from inside Attica that it unconditionally supported the prisoners' demands. A further bond of love and trust was forged in those tense hours.

The isolation of the prisons has been permanently shattered. Even the highest concrete wall, the darkest cell, the cruelest solitary "hole" can no longer hold the terror it once had, for 1500 men at Attica have looked the worst in the face.

ATTENTION: PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Contact the Prisoners Solidarity Committee if we can help you in any of these ways:

- Help you get in touch with your loved ones. (The PSC has many, many messages from the Attica prisoners. Not all of them are supplied with addresses. If you are trying to get news about or to anyone in Attica, contact the PSC and we will help.)
- Legal assistance. The PSC will try to get legal help for prisoners and their families.
- Transportation. We are raising funds to charter more buses so that relatives can visit prisons in remote areas.
- Publicity. The PSC puts out pamphlets, leaflets, press releases and organizes demonstrations to make the voices of the prisoners heard.

Anyone wishing to help in the work of the PSC should also contact us at the following chapters:

NEW YORK CITY
58 West 25th Street

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
69 Rohr Street

DETROIT, MICHIGAN
2515 Woodward

BUFFALO, NEW YORK
939 Main Street

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
P.O. Box 8875

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
150 E. Juneau Avenue

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
120 Dell Street

CLEVELAND, OHIO
Box 2576, East Cleveland

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
P.O. Box 972

— Attica demands

(continued from PSC 8)

20. We Demand an immediate end to the agitation of race relations by the prison administration of this State.

21. We Demand that the Dept. of Corrections furnish all prisoners with the services of ethnic counselors for the needed special services of the Brown and Black population of this prison.

22. We Demand an end to the discrimination in the judgment and quota of parole for Black and Brown people.

23. We Demand that all prisoners be present at the time their cells and property are being searched by the correctional officers of state prisons.

24. We Demand an end to the discrimination against prisoners when they appear before the

Parole Board. Most prisoners are denied parole solely because of their prior records. Life sentences should not confine a man longer than 10 years as 7 years is the considered statute for a lifetime out of circulation, and if a man cannot be rehabilitated after a maximum of ten years of constructive programs, etc., then he belongs in a mental hygiene center, not a prison.

25. We Demand that better food be served to the inmates. The food is a gastronomical disaster. We also demand that drinking water be put on each table and that each inmate be allowed to take as much food as he wants and as much bread as he wants, instead of the severely limited portions and limited (4) slices of bread. Inmates wishing a pork-free diet should have one, since 85% of our diet is pork meat or pork-saturated food.

26. We Demand an end to the unsanitary conditions that exist in the mess hall: i.e., dirty trays, dirty utensils, stained drinking cups and an end to the practice of putting food on the tables hours before eating time without any protective covering over it.

27. We Demand that there be one set of rules governing all prisons in this state instead of the

present system where each warden makes rules for his institution as he sees fit.

IN CONCLUSION

We are firm in our resolve and we demand, as human beings, the dignity and justice that is due to us by our right of birth. We do not know how the present system of brutality and dehumanization and injustice has been allowed to be perpetrated in this day of enlightenment, but we are the living proof of its existence and we cannot allow it to continue.

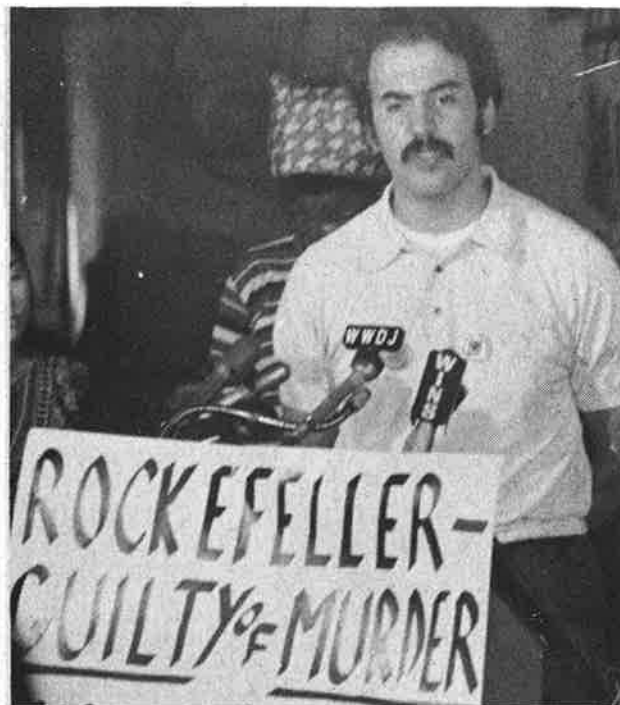
The taxpayers who just happen to be our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, daughters and sons should be made aware of how their tax dollars are being spent to deny their sons, brothers, fathers and uncles of justice, equality and dignity.

* * *

The above demands were presented at the outset of the rebellion. In addition, the prisoners made the three key demands of passage to a nonimperialist country, the firing of warden Mancusi, and complete amnesty. These key demands were unconditionally refused by Rockefeller and his prison hacks.

Report from inside Attica

"We'll win or die together"



TOM SOTO

Following is an interview with Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee. Tom Soto was invited by rebelling inmates to Attica Prison last Thursday at the beginning of the uprising. He spent four days in the prison talking to inmates and trying to give voice to their demands.

* * *

WW: Why did you go to Attica?

Tom: The inmates who participated in the rebellion at Attica made it clear in their demands that they wanted a representative from the Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) to come to the prison. Many of the prisoners had heard of the support work we were doing at the Tombs, at Auburn, at the Women's House of Detention in New York City and at many other prisons around the country.

They asked that the PSC be present at Attica in order to give voice to their demands. Our organization was distinguished in this respect from some of the people present on the committee of civilians who were asked to go up there by Governor Rockefeller and State Commissioner Oswald to negotiate in the interest of the state.

WW: Do many of the prisoners at Attica know about the PSC?

Tom: Many of the prisoners I spoke to — Black, white, Puerto Rican, Chicano — were aware of our activities and were heartily behind us. Several of these prisoners had been at other prisons and were aware of our activities that way. Many of them know about the bus program we arranged to transport relatives to prisons throughout New York State. And several of the inmates we had actually had correspondence with.

WW: How did you get into the prison?

Tom: Well, when the PSC was informed on Thursday that we were wanted by the inmates, our Buffalo

D Block. As the inmates who were greeting us saw that I was from the PSC, I got salutes of "All Power to the People" and "Right on." The response to us was tremendous.

It was pitch dark in the prison — this was between 11:00 and 12:00 Friday night. When we crossed from B Block through the tunnel into D Block, the liberated area, I was totally amazed at the incredible sight in the yard of D Block. I saw approximately 1500 inmates there. They were organized into a security system, standing with arms locked in circles five rows deep.

BLACK, BROWN AND WHITE ARMS INTERLOCKED

The greeting that I received, because I am Puerto Rican and representing the PSC, was very moving. Prisoners gave me tremendous hugs of solidarity, there was enthusiastic shaking of hands and slogans shouted, "Que Viva Puerto Rico Libre" and "All Power to the People." But the most striking thing of all was that as I moved through the courtyard among the tents they had set up, I could sense the terrible oppression these men had been through and their comradeship, strength and unity. I saw Black arms interlocking with white arms, interlocking with Brown arms. It was total unity among all of them.

The inmates asked the committee of observers if we were truly with them, would we be willing to stay overnight in the prison. Of course, the politicians refused, replying that they could not stay in the institution. I had already agreed to stay the night, along with several other Puerto Rican brothers.

After the politicians left, I got to speak with hundreds of Black, Puerto Rican and white prisoners; I spoke most extensively with the brothers assigned by the prisoners to be my security guards. Two were Puerto Rican, two Black and one white. They escorted me throughout the liberated area and took me wherever I requested to go, telling of the racist, inhuman treatment and conditions that led to the rebellion. The inmates informed me that the authorities had turned off the water, that they had no food supplies, that they had no toilets, that they were being starved while prison officials were telling the people outside that food was getting in regularly. The authorities

telling him to come back when he had learned to speak English. Another brother, William Jamison, I was told, had complained of being ill, but was told it was just in his head. After a week in the observation ward he was returned to his cell. The next day he died.

All of the inmates said that they had been brutally beaten at different times, that they had been gassed, that they were generally treated like animals, that there were no Black or Puerto Rican history books available to them. One of the brothers suggested that one of the demands should be that everybody be released from special housing (solitary confinement).

TOUR OF THE LIBERATED AREA

Upon my request, the inmates took me on a tour of the entire liberated area. I saw the cells, smaller than 8 feet by 6 feet, with just enough room for a bed and about 3 feet that you could actually walk back and forth in. Every window in the prison had thick, three-quarter-inch bars. (I say this because one of the claims of the prison hacks is that a guard had been thrown out of a window on the first day of the uprising. This is absurd because there are no windows without bars.)

The brothers complained of the short periods for exercise, amounting to about one-half hour a day. And, of course, in the winter there was no yard at all. They informed me that their blankets were washed once a year; they complained about the diet that had almost no protein, the terrible housing, the one 5-minute shower a week, and the sexual assaults by guards. There were some incidents described to me that were so horrible that I cannot remember the details, my mind refuses to recall them. The misery and terror that exists in Attica can only be compared with a Nazi concentration camp. In fact, the entire yard looked like a Palestinian refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

I'd like to quote one small note given to me by a young brother. It kind of sums up all the pain and anger that the inmates feel. It reads:

"We have been constantly oppressed and maltreated by the fascist pigs far too long. We are human beings with human desires and we demand an end to brutality, prejudice, and injustice and we

the PSC, the Lords, the Muslims and several Puerto Rican brothers — were locked up in a separate room under armed guard and threatened with being shot if we tried to leave, while the others were meeting with Oswald to draw up a list of 28 proposed demands.

WW: On Saturday night, when the proposals of Oswald and the politicians were read to the prisoners, how did they react?

Tom: At first, there was dead silence, a deep sense of betrayal and then anger. I let the prisoners know that I had nothing whatsoever to do with those proposals, that I, along with several other brothers, had been locked in a room under armed guard while the talks were going on.

Throughout the reading of the demands, everyone was totally silent. First of all, there was no amnesty. In fact, in a letter written by the DA on this very subject of amnesty, the DA said that he would prosecute anybody who he felt had committed a "crime." That's some amnesty. The proposals gave no guarantees; they were not legally binding in any way and the prisoners knew it.

For example, on the demand for minimum wages, Oswald only said he'd recommend that, but then the budget could be allotted to allow only 25 cents an hour and his word would be worthless. Another proposal said that the prison would provide inmates with "adequate food, water, and shelter." That word "adequate" is so ambiguous, it's meaningless. The prison officials already claim that prisoners receive adequate food, water, and shelter.

Well, the inmates got up and said that the authorities must think we are bullshitting because that's not what we were asking for. All that was simply words and had no meaning. A Puerto Rican brother got up and very eloquently stated, "We have suffered, we have died, we have fought, we have been dehumanized, we have been raped, we have been beaten, we have been gassed; now they give us a bullshit piece of paper....The oppressed cannot accept this!"

WW: How did the prisoners react to Oswald's ultimatum?

Tom: First of all, in his ultimatum, Oswald implied that the whole committee had approved all of his recommendations. Consequently, the inmates felt that the committee had betrayed them. When we got to see the prisoners Sunday night, they were angry, and rightfully so. The prisoners answered Oswald's ultimatum by saying that they would stand firm on the demand for amnesty and the next move was up to the state. The issue was total amnesty; everything else was secondary.

They said that the proposal that Oswald had submitted was bullshit, and they were tired of playing games. He had to decide, did he want to negotiate or did he want a massacre? Of course, now we know that Oswald and Rockefeller chose the massacre. They never seriously negotiated with the prisoners; they were just waiting for the kill.



Tom: Well, when the PSC was informed on Thursday that we were wanted by the inmates, our Buffalo committee immediately contacted the national staff in New York City. I took a plane to Buffalo the next morning and got to Attica Prison at about 9 a.m. I should add that representatives of the PSC were outside Attica all day and night Thursday. As soon as I got there, I informed the authorities at the prison that I had been asked by the inmates to be up there and requested to see them immediately.

I was forced to wait from 9 a.m. until approximately 11 o'clock that night before I was finally allowed to enter. During this time, the state officials who were asked to come to Attica by Oswald and the government were flown in and brought to the prison by state police.

When these official "negotiators" arrived at the prison around 4 p.m., I informed them all of who I was, but it wasn't until about 11:00 that night, after everyone else had gone inside, that I was finally admitted. I feel that the reason I was admitted at all was first because the inmates wanted the PSC there, and second because three Puerto Rican brothers who got inside before me threatened to tell the inmates that the PSC had been there for two days and wasn't being allowed inside. The authorities, fearing this kind of pressure, were forced to allow me into the prison.

I WAS THERE TO SUPPORT PRISONERS' DEMANDS

As soon as I went up to the office where the different state representatives, senators, assemblymen, etc., were, I was informed that I had to conform to the discipline of the group, that I could not speak independently, and that my only role would be to listen to them talk with the inmates. I immediately responded by telling them that I was not a member of any negotiating committee or any mediating team; I was there as a representative of the PSC to talk to the brothers inside, to support their demands unconditionally, and to give voice to their demands on the outside. I made it very clear that I had nothing to do with them.

WW: Once you were in the prison, did you get to talk to many of the prisoners? Could you describe to us what you saw?

Tom: I was taken inside the main gate of the prison, in through the administration building, then through a series of tunnels, electrically controlled steel gates, and finally to a tunnel near A Block—liberated territory guarded by prisoners. Separating the inmates on one side and all the guards and state officials on the other side were bars which could be opened by a key. On the administration side there were about 30 to 40 guards equipped with sub-machine guns, sniper rifles, gas grenades, and shot-guns.

The inmates on security in the tunnel in A Block were informed when I or others from the committee were coming through. We were led into the passageway two at a time, each of us was searched twice—once by the guards and then a second time by the inmates on their territory. As soon as the inmates recognized the PSC button that I was wearing, and a button that said, "Stop the War Against Black America," they shook my hand and greeted me warmly.

These inmates, some wearing football helmets and headresses, were extraordinarily well organized. They had already devised a very tight security system. We were led from this tunnel down through A Block, into B Block, then through the courtyard of B Block into the tunnel that separates B Block from



were claiming that they were sending in food three times a day, but in reality the 1500 inmates were being sent only 1000 sandwiches with a few large cans of coffee a day. The sandwiches consisted of two pieces of bread and one piece of coldcut in between.

INMATES GRIEVANCES

All the inmates I spoke with looked physically worn out. Many were dehydrated and suffered from vitamin deficiencies. But their spirit was always very strong, very united and very determined. There was real class solidarity among Black, Brown and white, even though the word "class" was not mentioned. I'd like to say here that never in my entire life have I seen so many people of different nationalities united in such a way. They all saw themselves as exploited and oppressed—all together.

One white brother from North Carolina spoke, describing how Black people were mistreated in his home town. He told how much he had learned about racism in prison and wound up his talk by saying, "I want everyone to know, we're going to stick together, we're going to get what we want, or we're going to die together."

The prisoners informed me that there were over 200 inmates doing life sentences at Attica. Almost all of them are Black and Puerto Rican. Eighty-five per cent of the prison population at Attica is Black and Puerto Rican; there are no Black or Puerto Rican guards, doctors, or officials. They spoke of the slave labor conditions—how they had to get up at 6:00 a.m. and be in the sheet metal workshops by 8:00; and then take lunch and a short period in the yard, then back to work again. For this they received 25 cents per hour!!

Many of the Latin brothers who spoke to me said that when they went to the medical authorities for treatment the doctor couldn't speak Spanish. One racist doctor refused to treat a Puerto Rican brother,

demand to be accepted as equals." It is signed, Brother Che, Palante.

I got hundreds of notes like this one, written to the prisoners' families, telling of the prison horrors and explaining why the rebellion was necessary. Many asked me to contact their relatives to tell them that their loved ones inside were OK. Today I do not know how many of these beautiful brothers are dead or alive.

After returning from the liberated cellblock, we proceeded to an area in the yard and sat on the ground and started to talk politics. They wanted to know about the struggle on the outside; they wanted to know about all the progressive political organizations, especially in their communities, and of course about the PSC; they wanted to know about the international situation, about the war in Vietnam; they wanted to know what the workers are doing, particularly about the wage freeze; and they of course wanted to know what were the possibilities of the masses moving to help them.

NO REAL NEGOTIATIONS WENT ON

WW: What was the role of the so-called negotiating committee?

Tom: Personally, let me say that the PSC was there to give voice to the demands of the brothers. The so-called committee was simply a screen that the authorities used to hide behind, giving them time to build up forces for the massacre. At no time did the authorities directly negotiate with the inmate population. At no time was there any indication that the authorities were willing to give in one-half inch on any substantive demands. The committee was used to give a false impression to the public that actual negotiations were going on while that was really not the case.

On Saturday afternoon, members of the left block of the committee—which was composed of

never seriously negotiated with the prisoners; they were just waiting for the kill.

FACING 40 MACHINE GUNS

WW: What was your last impression at Attica before you left?

Tom: There is one scene that I'll never forget. I was leaving the prison for the last time, late Sunday night. As I entered corridor A leading into the liberated area there was a brother whom I happen to know personally standing on security. His arms were folded as he faced 40 machine guns on the administration side. On his shirt he was wearing a PSC button. Today, I don't know if he is alive.

Another thing I'll never forget: a brother whom I rapped with a long time noted the ring on my finger and asked about it. I told him it had been made from an American fighter bomber shot down by Laotian women over Laos. I gave it to him and he considered it to be a very dear show of solidarity between the PSC and the prisoners and the Indochinese people.

As I left, I knew that I might never see these men again. The atmosphere was filled with tension. There were many hugs and kisses, many goodbyes, many messages to families on the outside. Yet there was also an incredible strength and determination among all the prisoners to fight for their just demands or die in the attempt.

Finally, I'd like to add that the prisoners don't view themselves as criminals. They know that they—the Black people, the Puerto Rican people, the poor white people—are not "criminals" but oppressed people, driven by poverty. They know that they have been denied proper education; they have been denied jobs; they have families to support; and they know that the only way for poor people to survive, for those with no hope of getting jobs, was through stealing. Most of them were there for petty crimes of stealing \$20 or \$100 or \$200, in other words, crimes of survival.

They see themselves as victims of a racist society which oppresses and exploits their people. They see the Rockefellers, the Mellons, the big corporations, the banks, those who rob and steal their labor for profit, as the real criminals.

The inmates always told me that they had no intention of killing any of the hostages. They took them because there was no other way to redress their grievances. The guard-hostages were the only thing that stood between the prisoners and sudden death. As it turned out, Rockefeller decided to sacrifice even the guards rather than to give in to the just demands of the prisoners. The blood of all the dead is on his hands.

But one thing the rulers of this country never seem to learn—they think repression, repression and more repression will end the oppressed people's uprisings. In fact, just the opposite is true. The men at Attica were so oppressed, so tortured, so brutally treated that finally they chose to revolt and even die rather than endure life behind those walls any longer. They knew that many would die, yet they chose the dignity of struggle rather than the misery of submission.

The Attica uprising was an historic event. It will live forever in the hearts and minds of the oppressed around the world. If the class solidarity shown there is any indication of the future, the cause of the oppressed and poor cannot fail. No prison rebellion in U.S. history has ever been so politically conscious and so determined. The Prisoners Solidarity Committee felt honored to have been invited by the prisoners to support them and is pledged to continue our work on their behalf.

Prisoners' relatives tell their story

" They pointed guns at us..."

Monday evening, just a few hours after the ruthless slaughter of prisoners at Attica, WORKERS WORLD spoke with four women who had just returned from the scene. Olga, Janie, and Idalia are three Puerto Rican women whose brother has been at Attica Prison only about a month. Carmene is a Black woman. Her husband has been at Attica since last June. All four women made the trip to the prison with members of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

* * * *

Olga explained that when her brother was transferred to Attica, the family found out about it purely by accident. "The family was not notified. My brother was not notified beforehand. It was by pure coincidence or luck that his wife went to visit him on the day of the transfer. This is the way she found out. They were both very upset and angry but they could do nothing about it."

Carmene had been to see her husband two weeks previously. At that time she had asked him about the conditions at Attica. "I asked him was it any better than Auburn (the prison he had been transferred from—ed.) and he said no—if you know the conditions at Auburn—the same conditions they have there are the conditions at Attica. It's no better." Carmene also mentioned

that while at Auburn her husband had had his life threatened by one of the guards and had been put in solitary.

INHUMANITY CAUSED REBELLION

We asked Janie what she thought caused the rebellion. "The inhumanity there. When I went to see him, you come all the way from New York City and all they give you is fifteen minutes. First, they weren't even going to let me in, claiming that I wasn't his sister. Finally, after hours of waiting, they let me see him. I was with him for fifteen minutes. By the way, they take finger prints of every finger and your palms. They put you through a machine to check for metal.

"My brother was furious about the harassment we had received. We asked him about the conditions. He said that the other prison had been bad, but this one was worse. He said it was like a concentration camp. He couldn't even get his mail. If a prisoner doesn't have relatives to send him money so he can buy food at the commissary, he is forced to eat scraps. All they give you at this prison are things like flour and powdered milk which you have to prepare yourself.

"When the fifteen minutes were over the guard came over and told us to leave. My sister and I got up. My brother was holding my hand and telling me to be careful going back home. The guard came over again and said, 'Do I have to repeat myself?' My brother got red. You could see the blood in his face. When he started to walk out, the guard told him to report to, I don't know where, but it was clear they were going to scold him."

RELATIVES BARRED FROM ATTICA

Upon reaching Attica at 4:30 Saturday morning, the women immediately went to the prison. "We found the road blocked. At first they thought we were inquiring about the guard hostages and they were very helpful. They had lists and everything. When they found out our brother was a prisoner, they changed their minds altogether. They told us to get in our car and get out."

"We encountered threats and provocations at every turn," Janie said. "The guards were very hostile. At one point they pointed their shotguns at us and said, 'Now we told you to get in that car and get out of here or do you want to get killed?' This happened on two occasions. Each time they pointed their guns at us. They also said, at another point, 'Didn't they tell you on the other side, we don't want you here!' At the same time, guards' wives were passing freely in and out of the prison."

"I can only imagine what goes on inside if we who are supposed to be free out here get such abusive treatment. What the hell is going on inside? The minute I was walking up the road I told myself, this is like a camouflaged concentration camp."

"Sunday night they issued an 8 p.m. curfew. We were coming down a dirt road. There was a patrol car there with a couple of state troopers. All of a sudden, along came a station wagon with six or seven men inside wearing white sheets over their heads with holes for the eyes. I told my sister they must be Ku Klux Klan members. She said they were probably just kids trying to scare us. But they stopped and talked with the troopers and then they passed right through on the same road that was supposed to be blocked to everyone."

We asked Idalia how she felt about the situation. "I don't want to talk about it," she replied in Spanish. "The way I feel about it is that it was a massacre, what they did to the prisoners."

At the time of this interview, the women had received no word concerning their loved ones. To read the bourgeois press, or listen to the fascist statements of the officials, one would get the impression that prisoners had no relatives, or that their relatives had no feelings. The pigs have another guess coming. The profound sorrow that the relatives and friends of the massacred prisoners feel today only suggests the boiling anger soon to come. That anger will demand justice and retribution for the crimes being perpetrated against the flesh and blood of the people.



CARMENE

Attica

Town youth have dialogue with PSC

ATTICA—One aspect of the courageous struggle waged by the Attica prisoners was its effect on the consciousness of people all over. The young people of the town of Attica, some of them the children of guards held by the prisoners, gathered by the roadblocks on Sunday afternoon where members of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and prisoners' families maintained a constant vigil of support for the courageous men of cellblock D.

They came out of curiosity, mostly. But they stayed and talked when the prisoners' supporters began explaining the prison issue and connections between Rocky's prisons, Rocky's wars in Viet Nam and the

Middle East, and Rocky's taxes. Raised in a small town, by racist parents, these young people had many distorted ideas, especially about the prisoners.

But after a couple of hours of careful explanation and discussion, many began to agree, some thanking us for taking the time to tell them "what it's all about."

This one incident, multiplied many times over, is part of the whole process of change the prisoners "inside" and those of us on the outside are all working for. They didn't gain physical freedom at Attica this year, but some day they will. By then there'll be many more people supporting the prisoners, and that day, WE'LL WIN.

Rochester

"Total amnesty"

ROCHESTER, N.Y., Sept. 13—A demonstration called today by the Rochester Prisoners Solidarity Committee to protest the massacre of prisoners at Attica State Prison drew the participation of 100 people, including 15 relatives of Attica prisoners.

Starting at 4:30 p.m., the PSC demonstration was held at a busy intersection in downtown Rochester, and picked up the support of 40 bystanders. "Oswald — tool of Rockefeller's rule!" chanted the demonstrators, frequently chanting allusions to the heroic struggles of the Jackson brothers. Over 4000 leaflets condemning the massacre were distributed throughout the Rochester area, and local radio and TV stations covered the demonstra-

tors as they carried banners saying "End slave labor at Attica!" and "Total amnesty for Attica prisoners!"

Cleveland

"Jail

Rockefeller"

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept. 13—The rush hour of busy downtown Cleveland had its routine broken today by a militant demonstration of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee protesting the Attica massacre. Carrying signs reading "Avenge Attica massacre" and "Jail the rich; Free the poor," about 20 people raised the fact that 85 per cent of the inmates in the country are Black and Third World, and almost all are poor. Undaunted by pouring rain, the demonstrators also carried a large banner reading, "Jail Rockefeller; Free Attica prisoners!"

Protests over massacre erupt in many cities

New York 700 hit Rocky's office

NEW YORK, Sept. 13—Over 700 people gathered outside the offices of Nelson Rockefeller here late this afternoon to protest the fascist massacre earlier in the day at Attica State Prison.

The thoughts of the crowd were clear in the many signs and banners and the shouts of "Rockefeller! Murderer! Tear Down the Jails!" After an hour of continuing police attempts to limit the size of the demonstration by surrounding it with barricades, the crowd surged out onto 55th Street and then onto Sixth Avenue, marching against the traffic. The police were left in the dust as the march moved south, bringing traffic to a halt as homeward-bound workers read our banners and took leaflets explaining the action.

At 42nd Street the demonstration swung east to Grand Central Station where, inside the huge central area, Fred Goldstein of Workers World Party addressed the crowd of demonstrators and workers. "The demands of the prisoners show the truth of prison conditions. We have to bring these facts to the people. When they know the truth about the horrible conditions that exist, they will rise up and tear the prisons down!"

Goldstein announced a public meeting on the Attica events to be held in New York on September 17. The featured speaker will be Tom Soto, a member of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee who was inside Attica during the events as an invited guest of the prisoners. He will report on what really happened at the prison.

Goldstein concluded by reminding the crowd of the class character of the Attica struggle. "Rockefeller the billionaire says that amnesty for the prisoners would have undermined the American way of life. But he really means that it would undermine his way of life. His freedom to rob the poor. He's the outside agitator. It was his class that built the prisons as part of their system to protect their wealth and power. Brothers Out of Attica! Rockefeller In!"



Demonstration in New York City.

Buffalo Cops club protesters

Sept. 14 -- In response to the brutal murders Rockefeller, Oswald & Co. committed Monday at Attica Concentration Camp, a rally and demonstration were called in downtown Buffalo. The Prisoners Solidarity Committee of YAWF issued a leaflet headlined "Hands Off the Attica Prisoners" and calling for the removal of all troops from Attica. Representatives from Black groups, B.R.A.G. and B.U.I.L.D., a relative of one of the prisoners, attorney William Kunstler, and Tom Soto, from the National Staff of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, all spoke. Their speeches reflected justified contempt for the actions of the prison administrators against the Attica prisoners.

The rally attracted 300 people, and many more on-lookers. But with the obvious interest shown by the people passing by, the Buffalo police got increasingly up-tight. They attacked the rally, clubbing indiscriminately, and beating people to the ground. Fifteen people were arrested and the rally was completely broken up by the riot-gear police and their dogs.

The massacre at Attica was a clear escalation of the ruling class's domestic war against the working, poor, and oppressed people. Their attempt in Buffalo Monday to smash any opposition to their genocidal policies is a clear indication of just how little freedom there really is in the U.S.

FREE THE ATTICA PRISONERS
TEAR THE PRISONS DOWN

Wilmington Beatings at Smyrna

WILMINGTON, Sept. 14—The Prisoners Solidarity Committee picketed the Wilmington office of Governor Peterson today to protest the barbaric massacre of 30 prisoners at Attica Prison, calling for the indictment of Governor Rockefeller, and to expose the brutal beatings administered to the rebellious prisoners of Delaware's own concentration camp Smyrna Prison.

"Support the struggle for liberation at Smyrna and Attica," read the PSC banner, connecting the two prison struggles as part of one struggle for the national liberation of oppressed minorities.

After the Smyrna rebellion, prison guards systematically brutalized prisoners held in the maximum security section. One of the prisoners had every bone in his hands broken so that they were three times their normal size. Another was beaten unconscious three times and left with a hole in the back of his head. All beaten prisoners were denied medical care. The screams of the victims were so loud that some of the prisoners in the minimum security section became sick in anguish.

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee has been contacted and given access to pictures of beaten prisoners and names of guards who led the brutal assault. The PSC

intends to publish the names of the guards with the photographs in a special four-page supplement of SEIZE THE TOWN on prisons with special emphasis on Attica and Smyrna. PSC is also planning a demonstration on September 18, Rodney Square, Wilmington, in support of the Attica and Smyrna prisoners. The Committee is also planning a public forum that night in Wilmington.

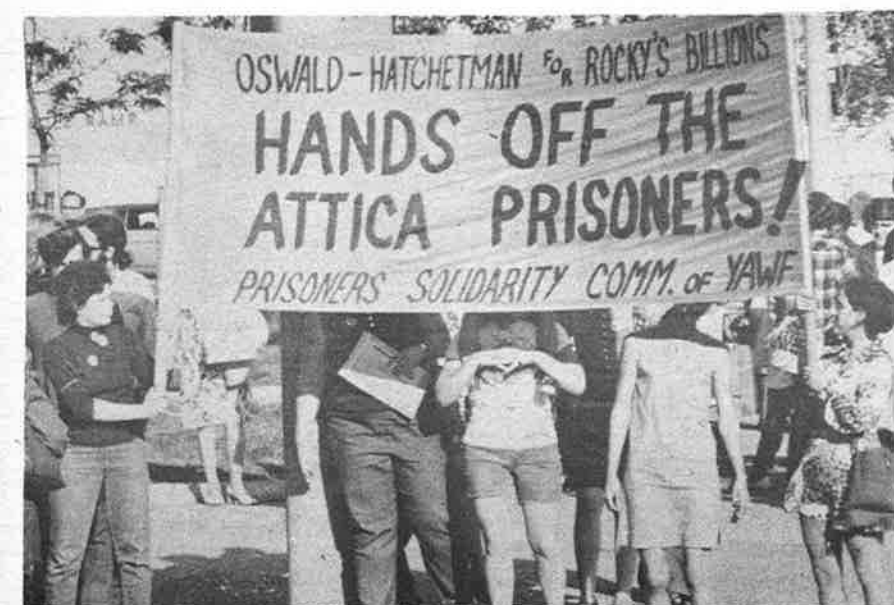
Detroit PSC rallies at county jail

DETROIT, Sept. 14— "Attica, Wayne, both the same! Racist hacks are to blame!" resounded against the walls of Wayne County Jail here today as 70 demonstrators picketed against the campaign of the rich ruling class of billionaire Rockefeller to crush the prisoners' growing movement across the country.

Yesterday, over one hundred shotgun-armed police with fire trucks stood and waited to attack prisoners outside Wayne Jail as tensions in the jail grew following news of the Attica massacre. Inside, nervous prison guards launched a shakedown search of every prisoner, exposing the prison officials' fear of a prisoners' uprising at Wayne.

As the Prisoners Solidarity Committee's demonstration approached the jail today, county police attempted to turn them back. The demonstrators, however, defied the police and set up a picket line which swelled to about 60 people within a few minutes.

As the strength of the picket line grew, the demonstrators marched around the entire jail with chants of "Avenge Attica Prisoners! Tear the walls down!" A member of the PSC closed with a short statement about the committee and the need to return again and again so that "Wayne County Jail, better start shaking; Prisoner power is in the making!"



Demonstration in Buffalo.

FOR THESE DEMANDS THEY DIED

Following is the list of demands issued by the rebelling Attica prisoners.

* * *

We, the men of Attica Prison, have been committed to the New York State Department of Corrections by the people of society for the purpose of correcting what has been deemed as social errors in behavior. Errors which have classified us as socially unacceptable until re-programmed with new values and more thorough understanding as to our value and responsibilities as members of the outside community. The Attica Prison program in its structure and conditions have been enslaved on the pages of this Manifesto of Demands with the blood, sweat, and tears of the inmates of this prison.

The programs which we are submitted to under the facade of rehabilitation are relative to the ancient stupidity of pouring water on a drowning man, inasmuch as we are treated for our hostilities by our program administrators with their hostility as medication.

In our efforts to comprehend on a feeling level an existence contrary to violence, we are confronted by our captors with what is fair and just, we are victimized by the exploitation and the denial of the celebrated due process of law.

In our peaceful efforts to assemble in dissent as provided under this nation's U.S. Constitution, we are in turn murdered, brutalized, and framed on various criminal charges because we seek the rights and privileges of all American People.

In our efforts to intellectually expand in keeping with the outside world, through all categories of news media, we are systematically restricted and punitively remanded to isolation status when we insist on our human rights to the wisdom of awareness.

MANIFESTO OF DEMANDS

1. We Demand the constitutional rights of legal representation at the time of all parole board hearings and the protection from the procedures of the parole authorities whereby they permit no procedural safeguards such as an attorney for cross-examination of witnesses, witnesses in behalf of the parolee, at parole revocation hearings.

2. We Demand a change in medical staff and medical policy and procedure. The Attica Prison hospital is totally inadequate, understaffed, and prejudiced in the treatment of inmates. There are numerous "mistakes" made many times; improper and erroneous medication is given by untrained personnel. We also demand periodical check-ups on all prisoners and sufficient licensed practitioners 24 hours a day instead of inmates' help that is used now.

3. We Demand adequate visiting conditions and facilities for the inmate and families of Attica prisoners. The visiting facilities at the prison are such as to preclude adequate visiting for inmates and their families.

4. We Demand an end to the segregation of prisoners from the mainline population because of their political beliefs. Some of the men in segregation units are confined there solely for political reasons and their segregation from other inmates is indefinite.

5. We Demand an end to the persecution and punishment of prisoners who practice the Constitutional Right of peaceful dissent. Prisoners at Attica and other New York prisons cannot be compelled to work as these prisons were built for the purpose of housing prisoners and there is no mention as to the prisoners being required to work on prison jobs in order to remain in the mainline population and/or be considered for release. Many prisoners believe their labor power is being exploited in order for the state to increase its economic power and to continue to expand its correctional industries (which are million-dollar complexes), yet do not develop working skills acceptable for employment in the outside society, and which do not pay the prisoner more than an average of forty cents a day. Most prisoners never make more than fifty cents a



day. Prisoners who refuse to work for the outrageous scale, or who strike, are punished and segregated without the access to the privileges shared by those who work; this is class legislation, class division, and creates hostilities within the prison.

6. We Demand an end to political persecution, racial persecution, and the denial of prisoner's rights to subscribe to political papers, books or any other educational and current media chronicles that are forwarded through the U.S. Mail.

7. We Demand that industries be allowed to enter the institutions and employ inmates to work eight hours a day and fit into the category of workers for scale wages. The working conditions in prisons do not develop working incentives parallel to the many jobs in the outside society, and a paroled prisoner faces many contradictions of the job that add to his difficulty in adjusting. Those industries outside who desire to enter prisons should be allowed to enter for the purpose of employment placement.

8. We Demand that inmates be granted the right to join or form labor unions.

9. We Demand that inmates be granted the right to support their own families; at present, thousands of welfare recipients have to divide their checks to support their imprisoned relatives, who without the outside support, cannot even buy toilet articles or food. Men working on scale wages could support themselves and families while in prison.

10. We Demand that correctional officers be prosecuted as a matter of law for any act of cruel and unusual punishment where it is not a matter of life and death.

11. We Demand that all institutions using inmate labor be made to conform with the state and federal minimum wage laws.

12. We Demand an end to the escalating practice of physical brutality being perpetrated upon the inmates of New York State prisons.

13. We Demand the appointment of three lawyers from the New York State Bar Association to full-time positions for the provision of legal assistance to inmates seeking post-conviction relief, and to act as a liaison between the administration and inmates for bringing inmates' complaints to the attention of the administration.

14. We Demand the updating of industry working conditions to the standards provided for under New York State law.

15. We Demand the establishment of inmate worker's insurance plan to provide compensation for work-related accidents.

16. We Demand the establishment of unionized vocational training programs comparable to that of the Federal Prison System which provides for union instructions, union pay scales, and union membership upon completion of the vocational training course.

17. We Demand annual accounting of the Inmates Recreational Fund and formulation of an inmate committee to give inmates a voice as to how such funds are used.

18. We Demand that the present Parole Board appointed by the Governor be eradicated and replaced by the parole board elected by popular vote of the people. In a world where many crimes are punished by indeterminate sentences and where authority acts within secrecy and within vast discretion and given heavy weight to accusations by prison employees against inmates, inmates feel trapped unless they are willing to abandon their desire to be independent men.

19. We Demand that the state legislature create a full-time salaried board of overseers for the State Prisons. The board would be responsible for evaluating allegations made by inmates, their families, friends and lawyers against employers charged with acting inhumanely, illegally or unreasonably. The board should include people nominated by a psychological or psychiatric association, by the State Bar Association or by the Civil Liberties Union and by groups of concerned involved laymen.

(continued on PSC 3)

Pickets condemn Klan attacks on busing

PONTIAC, Mich., September 11—“The Ku Klux Klan and its fascist allies have no right to exist. It is imperative to confront and stop such racist and anti-worker organizations immediately!” This was the call for a demonstration organized by Detroit Youth Against War & Fascism against the Klan's anti-busing terror campaign and held in downtown Pontiac today.

The area of Michigan surrounding Detroit has a history of racist, fascist terror. In the early organizing days of the UAW, the bosses' Black Legion was set up to kill Black workers and union organizers. Today, the Klan, the rightwing Breakthrough, and Statecraft (an openly Nazi group) are attempting to intimidate and terrorize the entire Black community and progressive whites.

The collaboration between the police and courts and the Klan is clear. The Pontiac Police Officers Association contributed \$300 towards the bail of anti-busing protesters. When Robert Miles, grand dragon of the Michigan Klan, and five other Klansmen were arrested for dynamiting ten school buses, they were soon released on bail of only \$1000. At most they face ten years' imprisonment—less time

than George Jackson served for an alleged \$70 robbery before he was murdered in jail.

In spite of the fact that the Pontiac Klan appears to consist of cops, skilled tradesmen, and other professionals, they have been able to recruit numbers of working whites who are confused and tricked into white supremacy or are psychologically destroyed by the brutal competition in capitalist society. The Klan appears to offer power to the powerless workers in a class society where the rich are the only class with power, while their real role is to act as agents of the bosses and union busters. These fascist organizations are pawns of the rich corporations (like GM, which runs Pontiac). It would take only one phone call from Roche, head of the board of GM, to put an end to the demonstrations and racist intimidation in Pontiac. But he doesn't want to do that... there's too much profit to be found where racial division and competition are thriving.

Today's anti-Klan picketers arrived promptly at noon and a line was immediately set up. Teams began distributing a leaflet which explained our position on the situation in Pontiac. The leaflet's de-

mands read: 1. An end to racist, fascist terror and intimidation; 2. self-determination for Black and Third World communities to decide how and where to send their children to school; 3. A good education

and decent living conditions for all people—not just the rich few.

The progressive people of Pontiac responded quickly to the leaflet and picket line. Within half an hour and after a few phone calls, about 15 or more people from Pontiac arrived to join the line to picket. When the cops made an attempt to break up the demonstration the chant went up loudly, “Cops and Klan work hand in hand,” which was quickly added to by a Pontiac mother—“Cops and Klan, Scum of the land.”

—Deb Dunfield
Detroit YAWF



Racists put school buses to the torch.

... “Let us bring under control a system that has become a suffocating burden on state and local taxpayers and a massive outrage against the people it was designed to help.”

Yes—trying to live on 78 cents a day is a suffocating burden, and it's an outrage that you, Nixon, dare open your well-fed mouth about it.

... “Let us get rid of a system where going on welfare is more profitable than going to work.”

You know damn well the profits go to you and yours, Nixon! While the people on welfare get the pennies that buy them only the cheapest, least nutritious food and the sleaziest clothes.

... “A strong and healthy spirit means a willingness to sacrifice.”

A welfare mother trying to raise her children in a rat-ridden tenement has nothing left to sacrifice. But the cost of one of your jet liner trips to your vacation White House in California would keep her family going for a year.

... “A strong and healthy spirit means a willingness to work.”

You don't know what work is, Nixon! Trying to get a decent meal together and have enough left out of a welfare check for the kid's shoes—that's work. Pushing to get some medical treatment in the crowded, understaffed clinics—that's work. And moving from one rundown welfare hotel to another anytime the Welfare Department says so—that's work.

... “The 'good life' is not the lazy life, or the empty life, or the life that consumes without producing.”

Who's lazy, Nixon? The Black and other oppressed people made the clothes you wear, grew the food you eat, made the limousine you ride in. Nixon, you haven't pro-

duced anything—but you sure consume plenty!

... “No work is demeaning or beneath a person's dignity if it provides food for his table and clothes and shelter for his children.”

Listen, Nixon—the oppressed have for generations scrubbed your floors, washed your clothes and carried out your garbage. And what's demeaning about it is that you expected them to call you “Sir” while they did it, and you paid them hardly enough to live on, too.

... “Let us recognize once and for all in America that any work is preferable to welfare.”

What work, Nixon! Even you admit that unemployment is over 6 per cent, and Black people suffer the highest unemployment rate of all.

But, you know what, Nixon?—the people can arrange a real nice job for you: pushing racks in a garment industry sweat-shop at a dollar eighty an hour. Now, that's not beneath your dignity is it, Nixon?



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Nixon — get a job!

by SHIRLEY JOLLS

President Nixon had a lot to say about the “work ethic” in his September 9 address to Congress—and it added up to a blatantly racist tirade directed against the Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano and other super-oppressed people who have to depend on welfare or unemployment benefits for a bare living.

Here are a few of his most venomous attacks, and some answers to his threat to millions of the poorest people in this country:

Demand for housing answered with guns

by VERONICA GOLOS

NEW YORK, Sept. 15 — Tenants in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn were fired upon yesterday by police armed with rifles and pistols, as the city government backed up a local landlord's eviction attack. In a followup today, 20 families were arrested as police tried to break the tenants' resistance aided by the People's Liberation Movement.

The struggle began after Mr. Kraus, the landlord of 1st Street South of Williamsburg, ordered the tenants to move from their homes about eight months ago, allegedly to "renovate" the apartments he had allowed to deteriorate despite complaints from the renters. Kraus, who owns 30 buildings in the area and himself lives in a luxury building on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, promised the tenants to give them first priority in the apartments, which then rented for \$35-\$65 per month. Later, however, Kraus revealed that he would raise the rents to as high as \$250, the lowest being \$150. This forced many of the families on the street to split up, sending their children to Puerto Rico.

Last Sunday, September 12, the community held a block party in honor of Carlos Feliciano, a jailed Puerto Rican nationalist. Various organizations participated, including El Komite, People's Liberation Movement, and Machete. During the event, the evicted families decided to move back into their homes, oc-

cupying the vacant apartments. Approximately 40 families moved into the buildings.

LANDLORD BRINGS IN COPS

Kraus reacted swiftly. The next day, 250 police of the SES (Special Events Squad, a fascist "riot" control unit) moved in at his request armed with shotguns, dogs, wagons, smoke bombs, and a helicopter flying overhead. One community member remarked that it looked like Vietnam. Apparently, the police thought it was. Five cops broke into the apartment of a pregnant woman, ordering her to leave immediately.

The aroused community then demanded that landlord Kraus appear. He did—along with seven armed police to back him up. He offered the families hotel rooms—welfare hotels, which are notorious for their horrible conditions and astronomical rents. The people refused in the face of police shotgun barrels, saying that if they were forced to go to a hotel, it would have to be the Waldorf-Astoria. The landlord didn't agree to that, nor to the demand that the people remain in their apartments, passing a racist remark that "These are nice apartments; I don't want people like these in them." Kraus then tried another tactic, paying some "Vende Patria" (scabs) \$50 a day to lock up the apartments and force the people to leave their homes. The attempt



The people of Brooklyn demand decent housing.

failed.

On Tuesday, September 14, a contingent from Youth Against War & Fascism, responding to a call for support, arrived as the police, who by this time were stationed on every rooftop and corner, began to change shifts. When the people of the community saw them leaving, a chant "jibaro si, yankee no!" (People yes, pigs no!) went up. One cop grabbed a young man; everyone went to rescue him. At this point, the police began murderously firing their rifles and pistols from the rooftops.

PEOPLE NOT INTIMIDATED

But the people came back, to stay in the streets. They sang songs of Puerto Rico and at one point, in front of a huge Puerto Rican flag, they chanted "eso este" (this is

it) with their fists in the air while the police lined the block.

A number of militant groups were on hand supporting and giving assistance to the squatters: PLM, El Komite, and Machete. They organized trucks to take the furniture that police had thrown on the streets, and put it in a site nearby "so that the people won't lose what little bit they have," said a woman from PLM. Emergency day care was also set up so that, in the event of a police attack, all the children would be safe.

YAWF was asked to stay the night to give assistance, which it did. Then, in the morning, twenty families were arrested, their spirits high and their fists raised, determined to return to their homes, chanting "Homes for the poor, Slums for the rich! Power to the People, Free Puerto Rico NOW!!"

2nd anniversary of Ho's death

The following poems were written by Ho Chi Minh during the 1940s while he was a prisoner in one of Chiang Kai-shek's jails.



FIRST PAGE OF THE DIARY

*Reciting verses has not been one of my habits,
But now in prison what else have I to do?
These captive days I'll spend in writing poems,
And, singing these, bring nearer the day of freedom.*



ENTERING TSINGSI DISTRICT PRISON

*Old inmates of the jail welcome new prisoners.
In the sky, white clouds are chasing the black ones away.
White clouds and black have drifted out of our sight.
On earth free people are huddled into the jail.*



HARD IS THE ROAD OF LIFE

*I
Having climbed over steep mountains and high peaks,
How should I expect on the plains to meet greater danger?
In the mountains, I met the tiger and came out unscathed:
On the plains, I encountered men, and was thrown in prison.*

II

*I was a representative of Vietnam
On my way to China to meet an important personage.
On the quiet road a sudden storm broke loose,
And I was thrust into jail as an honored guest.*

III

*I am a straightforward man with no crime on my conscience,
But I was accused of being a spy for China.
So life, you see, is never a very smooth business,
And now the present bristles with difficulties.*

September 17, 1971

80,000 Puerto Ricans protest yankee governor's conference

SAN JUAN, Sept. 13 — Over 80,000 independentistas showed what they thought of the imperialist U.S. Governors' Conference being held here by staging a gigantic protest march yesterday, perhaps the largest ever held in Puerto Rico. The demonstration marked the 80th birthday of Albizu Campos, the late and heroic leader of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico.

The march, which was sponsored by the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI) and the Puerto Rican Independentist Party (PIP), converged on the Governors' Conference site, the infamous Yankee tourist strip called the "Condado." The huge demonstration was organized to show colonial puppet Governor Ferre and his U.S. bosses

that the Puerto Rican people want complete independence from U.S. imperialist domination, now.

Tens of thousands of militants carried tremendous banners which read, "Yankee Go Home," while chanting the same slogan. And despite huge troop deployments around the Conference hotels, the protesters were not intimidated. They shouted and jeered at the imperialist politicians looking on from their plush hotel terraces. Conspicuously absent from the Conference was Nelson Rockefeller, Governor of New York State. Not only is Rockefeller the most notorious exploiter of the Puerto Rican and Latin American peoples, but it is now known here that Rockefeller stayed in New York to carry out the worst

prison massacre ever in the State of New York, murdering mostly Black and Puerto Rican inmates.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12 — Close to 1,000 Puerto Rican militants marched through the Puerto Rican community of Williamsburgh in Brooklyn today to commemorate the 80th birthday of the late Albizu Campos, the great Nationalist Party leader of Puerto Rico. The demonstration was also in solidarity with the massive 80,000-strong march and protest in San Juan, where the U.S. imperialist Governors' Conference is being held.

The march was organized by the New York chapter of the Pro-In-

dependence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI) and began at the local MPI headquarters at Graham Avenue and Varet Street and ended at South 1st Street and Marcy Avenue, where a spirited rally took place.

The march featured huge banners and dozens of flags displaying a portrait of Albizu Campos. The demonstrators chanted loudly and could be heard throughout the community with their Spanish slogans, "Viva Puerto Rico Libre y Socialista!" ("Long Live a Free and Socialist Puerto Rico!") and "Arriba, Abajo, A los Yankis para Carajo!" ("Up, Down, Yankees Go to Hell!").

The rally heard Jose Irizarry and Domenech Armengol of MPI, Manuel Ortiz of El Comite, and a representative of the Puerto Rican Defense Committee of Williamsburgh, which has been waging a successful struggle against the local white North American landlords. The militant demonstration and its numerical strength impressed a large Puerto Rican community which is becoming more politicized every day by the oppressive living and working conditions forced upon all Puerto Ricans living in cities throughout the U.S.

The case of Carlos Feliciano

by JOHN DIAZ

It was a warm Tuesday morning and the day after Labor Day. Carlos Feliciano was in Bronx Supreme Court for a hearing to set a date for his trial. Carlos Feliciano is a member of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico who was arrested last year in New York and framed on trumped-up charges of bombing about 35 buildings.

On the day of his hearing, the courtroom was filled with Carlos' family, friends, and supporters who had come from all over to show their support. Carlos came walking through the door that leads to the bullpen adjoining the courtroom. The crowd stirred and began whispering. As usual, Carlos walked ahead of the guard smiling with his head held up high, and, as he always does upon entering the courtroom, he greeted his friends by raising his clenched fist high into the air. His supporters immediately responded in the same fashion. Then he waved to his family.

His attorney, William Kunstler, submitted an application for reduction of bail which now totals \$50,000. The judge flatly denied the application and set the trial date. The guard proceeded to escort Carlos back to the bullpen and once again Carlos raised his fist high into the air. The crowd immediately returned the fist, shouting "Viva Puerto Rico Libre" as Carlos disappeared through the door which would lead him back to the harsh reality of the concentration camp (prison).

It ended as quickly as it had begun, although lasting about 15 or 20 minutes. Carlos' high spirits still hadn't been broken and this made the crowd happy as they left the courtroom vowing to return with three times as many supporters for the trial. Thus ended another episode of the Carlos Feliciano case.

Carlos at the age of 19 in 1947 served in the ranks of the glorious Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico along with Don Pedro Albizu Campos. He was very active in all branches of the movement, political and military. Carlos, like Albizu Campos, was a great fighter for the independence of his country and for this he did some time in prison along with Albizu Campos.

In 1956, two years after his release from prison in Puerto Rico, Carlos came to New York to live with his family, and get away from constant harassment by the F.B.I. He worked as a cabinet maker for fourteen years, at

the same time working twelve years as superintendent of the apartment building where he lived. He worked all those years, night and day, at these two jobs up until the day he was arrested.

On May 16, 1970, Carlos was returning to his car from a sporting goods shop near 163rd Street and Southern Boulevard when two plainclothes cops arrested him for allegedly bombing about 35 buildings. On the night of his arraignment, bail was set at \$5,000, but two hours later District Attorney John Fine appeared in court and demanded higher bail for Carlos. In order to obtain it, he lied, saying that Feliciano had confessed under interrogation to being a member of MIRA (an underground organization credited with the bombings of numerous Yankee businesses in Puerto Rico and some on the mainland), an agent of the Cuban Revolutionary government, and that he had participated in about 35 bombings.

The judge raised the bail to the excessive amount of \$150,000 in Manhattan plus \$100,000 in the Bronx—a total of \$250,000, which has subsequently been lowered under popular pressure to \$50,000. The publicity Carlos got was slanderous, prejudiced, exaggerated, and totally incorrect. Eventually, Carlos' attorney came in possession of the record of Feliciano's interrogation by the police. The record proves that Carlos definitely had denied being a member of MIRA. Since his arrest all the evidence points towards a frameup.

The question is why anyone, including the U.S. government, would want to frame Carlos Feliciano—a family man with six children, a man who spent most of his time working hard at two jobs to be able to provide for his family.

Is it because they know that Carlos is a dedicated fighter and advocate of independence for his country? Or maybe it's because, while in prison with Albizu Campos, he was able to witness the physical manifestations of the mysterious illness later diagnosed professionally as "burns similar to those seen in cancer patients suffering from severe overdoses of radiation." Albizu Campos himself believed these burns were caused by atomic radiation applied to his body in prison by the U.S. government. Carlos Feliciano was among the attendants who month after month alleviated the pain by applying wet towels to the burns,



CARLOS FELICIANO

changing them frequently as they warmed to the touch after a few minutes' contact with Albizu Campos' body.

In March 1954, Albizu's temporary pardon was cancelled and he was held incommunicado after suffering a paralytic stroke which rendered him unable to speak or to move his right side. He died in 1965 without ever having been able to describe his symptoms or explain his theory regarding their cause to qualified scientists who would have been able to judge their validity.

The U.S. government also wants to link Carlos, and through him the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, with the underground organization MIRA, political bombings in New York and Puerto Rico, and the Cuban revolutionary government. If Carlos is convicted, they can publicly brand him as a Cuban agent affiliated with MIRA and connected with the bombings, making it easier to harass all Puerto Rican patriotic organizations such as M.P.I., Young Lords, Puerto Rican Student Union, etc., on charges of conspiracy.

Carlos will be going to trial in Manhattan on September 27, 1971. We ask that all brothers and sisters, who can possibly make it, come show support for him at his trial.

The Defense Committee for Carlos Feliciano hopes to have Carlos out on bail soon but a lot of financial help is needed. And we must pack the courtroom in support of Carlos. For more information, get in touch with the Carlos Feliciano Defense Committee, Box 356, Canal Street Station, New York, N.Y. 10013 or the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, 58 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y., telephone (212) 989-3932.

Vietnam
and the opium
of the people

Part IV.

Prisons -
horror labs
for drug
companies

Calendar of events

Chicago . . .

MARCH TO PROTEST THE ATTICA MASSACRE

March from Civic Center to Federal Bldg.

Called by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee
and the Black Panther Party

Sponsored by: Black Economic Development
(Black Workers Congress), Rising Up Angry,
United Front of Cairo, Young Patriots, and others

Saturday, September 18 — 12 noon

Buffalo . . .

COMMUNITY MEETING
REPORT FROM INSIDE ATTICA

Called by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee
Sponsored by: Black Student Union, BUILD,
El Comite, PODER, and YAWF

Sunday, September 19 — 7:30 p.m.
315 Niagara Street

Wilmington . . .

DEMONSTRATION AND MEETING
ON ATTICA AND SMYRNA

Called by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee

Demonstration: Rodney Square
Saturday, September 18 — 1 p.m.

Meeting: Friends Meeting House
Saturday, September 18 — 7 p.m.

New York . . .

"OXI DAY" CELEBRATION

Called by Democratia

Saturday, October 2 — 8 p.m.,
St. Peter's Church, 346 West 20 Street

by Jerry Zilg

For years, the country's leading tester of new drugs for the \$12 billion pharmaceutical industry was Dr. A. R. Stough. Though a general practitioner with no formal training in pharmacology, Stough was responsible for up to fifty per cent of initial drug tests in the United States. He was also responsible for the deaths of over 1000 testees. His subjects for these experiments were inmates of Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Alabama prisons, most of whom are Black.

Stough was very successful in his deadly trade. In fact, he became a millionaire off the suffering of prisoners. Given a free hand in the prisons to pick "volunteers" and experiment with filthy equipment and risky drugs, Stough was responsible for the deaths of more than 1000 prisoners from hepatitis in testing blood plasma and gamma globulin alone. Thousands more were made seriously ill, and no statistics are available of how many more died from bad drug reactions.

These murders, however, never fazed the racism of prison officials. "He does a good job," said one Arkansas administrator. Apparently the country's leading drug corporations agreed. Unconcerned with the slaughter of prison inmates, all the familiar brand names — Wyeth, Lederle, Bristol-Myers, Merck, Upjohn, E.R. Squibb & Sons — were all too pleased to contract with Stough.

It wasn't long before Stough became a multi-millionaire, with a personal income every year exceeding \$1 million. His Southern Food and Drug Research Company soon provided enough capital for the doctor of death to set up nine more companies, all highly profitable.

The federal government knew all about Stough's horrible atrocities and gave him its full blessing. The New York Times of July 19, 1969, admitted that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) knew for years about Stough's operations and the resulting prisoner deaths but did nothing. Protecting Stough's "right" to make profits by turning three state prison systems into houses of horror was more important to the federal government than protecting the lives of those people already victimized by racism and by the profit-motivated economy the government is sworn to uphold. To the government,

an exploiter like Stough is always more important than the exploited who are sent to prison for "crimes" of economic desperation and resistance to racist oppression.

Everyone in the highest economic brackets and circles of power approved Stough's crimes: the federal government, the state governments and prison officials, the country's leading drug corporations, everyone, including even Stough's occasional upper class critics. Oklahoma's Senator Stipe, for example, abandoned his reservations about Stough's operations to help secure the doctor's position in Oklahoma's prisons. Coincidentally, at about the same time, the Senator joined the payrolls of Stough's company as a "legal adviser," raking in over \$1000 a month as a "retainer fee."

Dr. Stough's demise in the prisons came in 1969 as the Montgomery Advertiser published a series of expose articles on his ghoulish operations. Spurred by the bad publicity, the Alabama Medical Association finally admitted that their colleague's atrocities in the prisons were "bluntly unacceptable" and issued a critical report which included the Nuremberg Code against medical experiments in Nazi concentration camps (much of which had also been done for big corporations). For too many prisoners, however, the report came too late.

Stough was never prosecuted for his crimes. Instead, he was barred from the prisons, retiring to the hard life of counting his millions, only to be quickly replaced by a score of other entrepreneurs only too eager to serve the needs of the \$12 billion drug corporations.

Today, the "experiments" still go on in the prisons of Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma and many other states in blatant violation of the basic human rights of the inmates. In the concentration camps of the poor and working class, wherein suffer those who have challenged the laws that protect the property and dictatorship of the rich, the reign of terror continues — of which drug experiments are only a part. But oppression has not won its final victory. A new revolutionary movement is breaking from the grasp of the beast, from the prisons, inspired by the exemplary struggles of revolutionary leaders in their midst and fired with the determination of the desperate.

END RACISM AND REPRESSION!

ANGELA DAVIS DAY

September 25, 1 to 4 p.m.
Central Park Mall, New York City
(Enter at 5th Ave. and 72nd St.)

DEMAND IMMEDIATE BAIL!

DEMAND AN END TO PERSECUTION

OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

Sponsored by the United Coalition for Angela Davis Day
for further information, call 243-8555

Protest meeting!

Report from
inside Attica

by TOM SOTO

Prisoners Solidarity Committee representative asked
by the prisoners to be at Attica to support their struggle

& RELATIVES OF ATTICA PRISONERS

Friday, Sept. 17 8:00 P.M.

Hotel New Yorker
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donation \$1.00

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